

nest is necessary to enable her and her mate to defend it against rapacious birds. Probably the raven, the buzzard, and the kite, may be all disposed to make unfriendly visits, wherever their race has not been exterminated by pitiless gamekeepers. But it is evident that the tawny owl is a formidable enemy. The reluctance of the rook to build out of society may also be better understood, as it cannot defend its open nest against the owl at night; and also one reason why the instinct of the daw leads it always to seek the shelter of a hole, although, as Mr. Waterton remarks, it appears to be as hardy a bird as the rook. That wisdom and beneficence which never err may have given them instincts for other and more important ends than human eyes may ever be able to descry, but it is always gratifying when we think we can in part understand the utility and design of differences so striking.—*From the Transactions of the Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club*, vol. i. part 1. p. 20.

Description of a species of Haliotis, supposed to be new.

By C. B. ADAMS, Prof.

Haliotis ponderosa. H. magna, ovata, crassissima, convexa; striis incrementi magnis, irregularibus; rugis concentricis, irregularibus, subnodosis; spira elevata, subterminali; foraminibus quatuor, magnis; externe rubra, intus maculis plurimis rubris viridibusque iridescente.

Shell ovate, convex, ponderous, with coarse unequal incremental striæ and concentric ridges (not folds), and a few broad low tubercles on the ridges; spire elevated, subterminal; four perforations open, the inner one very large; exterior surface brick-red; inner surface elegantly iridescent with innumerable shades of delicate red, purplish red, and green.

Length $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.; breadth $6\frac{2}{3}$ in.; depth within $3\frac{1}{8}$ in.

Comparison with the well-known *H. rufescens*, Swains., will render a figure unnecessary. A large specimen of Swainson's shell before me has exactly the same superficial dimensions, but is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. *H. ponderosa* is nearly or quite destitute of the spiral waves of *H. rufescens*, is of a darker red without, wants the red inner margin of the outer lip, and within has the clouds of iridescent colours remarkably small and numerous, while in *H. rufescens* they are remarkably large. It is more ponderous than any *Haliotis* which we have seen, weighing 2 lbs. 2 oz. avoirdupois.

Zoological Museum, Amherst College. Hab. — ?

Not finding this species in Reeve's very complete and excellent monograph, I have ventured to describe it as new.—*From Silliman's Journal for July 1848.*

Cremastochilus in Ant Nests. By S. S. HALDEMAN.

Our ant-nests are similar to those of Europe, in harbouring various insects. Among these are *Aphis*, *Coccus*, *Batrisus*, *Hister*, *Heterius*, and the singular genus of *Lamellicornia* mentioned above.

nest is necessary to enable her and her mate to defend it against rapacious birds. Probably the raven, the buzzard, and the kite, may be all disposed to make unfriendly visits, wherever their race has not been exterminated by pitiless gamekeepers. But it is evident that the tawny owl is a formidable enemy. The reluctance of the rook to build out of society may also be better understood, as it cannot defend its open nest against the owl at night; and also one reason why the instinct of the daw leads it always to seek the shelter of a hole, although, as Mr. Waterton remarks, it appears to be as hardy a bird as the rook. That wisdom and beneficence which never err may have given them instincts for other and more important ends than human eyes may ever be able to descry, but it is always gratifying when we think we can in part understand the utility and design of differences so striking.—*From the Transactions of the Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club*, vol. i. part 1. p. 20.

Description of a species of Haliotis, supposed to be new.

By C. B. ADAMS, Prof.

Haliotis ponderosa. H. magna, ovata, crassissima, convexa; striis incrementi magnis, irregularibus; rugis concentricis, irregularibus, subnodosis; spira elevata, subterminali; foraminibus quatuor, magnis; externe rubra, intus maculis plurimis rubris viridibusque iridescente.

Shell ovate, convex, ponderous, with coarse unequal incremental striæ and concentric ridges (not folds), and a few broad low tubercles on the ridges; spire elevated, subterminal; four perforations open, the inner one very large; exterior surface brick-red; inner surface elegantly iridescent with innumerable shades of delicate red, purplish red, and green.

Length $8\frac{1}{2}$ in.; breadth $6\frac{2}{3}$ in.; depth within $3\frac{1}{8}$ in.

Comparison with the well-known *H. rufescens*, Swains., will render a figure unnecessary. A large specimen of Swainson's shell before me has exactly the same superficial dimensions, but is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. *H. ponderosa* is nearly or quite destitute of the spiral waves of *H. rufescens*, is of a darker red without, wants the red inner margin of the outer lip, and within has the clouds of iridescent colours remarkably small and numerous, while in *H. rufescens* they are remarkably large. It is more ponderous than any *Haliotis* which we have seen, weighing 2 lbs. 2 oz. avoirdupois.

Zoological Museum, Amherst College. Hab. — ?

Not finding this species in Reeve's very complete and excellent monograph, I have ventured to describe it as new.—*From Silliman's Journal for July 1848.*

Cremastochilus in Ant Nests. By S. S. HALDEMAN.

Our ant-nests are similar to those of Europe, in harbouring various insects. Among these are *Aphis*, *Coccus*, *Batrisus*, *Hister*, *Heterius*, and the singular genus of *Lamellicornia* mentioned above.